

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A system for facilitating selection, installation, and configuration of device
drivers in a managed environment. The system includes a first mechanism for
automatically accessing information about a device for which a driver is to be
installed on a computer connected thereto and providing a signal in response thereto.
The information includes device type and operational capabilities. A second
10 mechanism selects a driver for the device and installs and automatically configures
the driver on the computer based on the signal. In a specific embodiment, the first
mechanism includes a database that maintains the information, which is organized
according to an asset identification number. The information includes first and
15 second portions. The first portion of information is obtained and entered in the
database upon installation of the device. The second portion of the information
includes operating system and language information pertaining to the computer. The
second mechanism includes a website portal accessible by via the computer for
enabling downloading of the driver. The second portion of the information is
obtained from headers that are automatically supplied to website portal user-interface
20 software by a browser running on the computer and accessing the website portal. The
user-interface software runs on the website portal and enables the user to enter the
asset identification number into the website portal. The asset number enables the
website portal to automatically select and/or build an appropriate driver package.